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Public Notices

Legal Notice Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Research Natural Areas Lower Joseph Creek Restoration Project 60 Day Notice and Objection Period The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest has considered public comment and has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and draft Record of Decision (ROD) for the establishment of two Research Natural Areas (Haystack Rock and Horse Pasture Ridge) as part of the Lower Joseph Creek Restoration Project. These documents are available on the Forest Service website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/wallowa-whitman/landmanagement/projects/LJCRP>. A paper copy or CD of the document or additional project information can be obtained by contacting Darcy Weseman, 72510 Coyote Rd., Pendleton, OR 97801, 541-278-3755, or by emailing deweseman@fs.fed.us. This project is subject to pre-decisional administrative review pursuant to 36 CFR 219, Subpart B, also called the "objection process." The regulation provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations to file an objection to a project before the final decision is signed. This allows interested individuals and organizations to advise the Deciding Official about concerns regarding the final decision before the decision is made. Only individuals or organizations that submitted specific written or oral comments during a designated opportunity for public participation (scoping or the public comment period) may object (36 CFR 219.53(a)). Notices of objection must meet the requirements of 36 CFR 219.54. Objections can be submitted in writing, either electronically or in hard copy but must be filed with the Reviewing Officer within 60 days from the date of publication of notice of the opportunity to object in the Oregonian. The publication date is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. Those wishing to file an objection to this decision should not rely upon dates of timeframe information provided by any other source. Incorporation of documents by reference is not allowed, except for the following list of items that may be referenced by including date, page, and section of the cited document, along with a description of its content and applicability to the objection: 1) all or any part of a federal law or regulation; 2) Forest Service directives and land management plans; 3) documents referenced by the Forest Service in the subject EIS, or 4) comments previously provided to the Forest Service by the objector during public involvement opportunities for the proposed project where written comments were requested by the responsible official. All other documents must be included with the objection. Minimum requirements of an objection are described at 36 CFR 219.54(c). An objection must include the objector's name, address and phone number or email if available, identification of the lead objector if applicable (verification of identity must be provided upon request); the name of the plan amendment being objected to along with the name and title of the responsible official; parts of the plan amendment to which the objection applies; a concise statement explaining the objection and suggesting how the proposed plan amendment decision may be improved. If applicable, the objector should identify how the objector believes that the plan amendment is inconsistent with law, regulation, or policy; and a statement that demonstrates the link between prior substantive formal comments attributed to the objector and the content of the objection, unless the objection concerns an issue that arose after the opportunities for formal comment (§ 219.53(a)). Objections may be sent as follows: Postal Delivery: USDA Forest Service Attn: Objection Reviewing Officer, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, EMC-LEAP, Mailstop 1104, Washington D.C., 20250, Emailed to: objections-chief@fs.fed.us. Please put Objection and Lower Joseph Creek Restoration Project, establishment of Haystack Rock and Horse Pasture Ridge Research Natural Areas in the subject line. Electronic objections must be submitted as part of an actual email message, or as an attachment in Microsoft Word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), or portable document format (.pdf) only. Emails submitted to addresses other than the ones listed above or in formats other than those listed above or containing viruses will be rejected. It is the responsibility of the objector to confirm receipt of objections submitted by electronic mail. For electronically mailed objections, the sender should normally receive an automated electronic acknowledgement from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgement of receipt, it is the sender's responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means: Hand deliveries, FedEx or UPS: USDA Forest Service, Attn: Objection Reviewing Officer, 210 14th St., SW, EMC-LEAP, Mailstop 1104, Washington, D.C., 20250. Hand deliveries can occur between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday thru Friday except legal holidays. The main phone line for carrier deliveries is 202-205-1449, FAX: 202-649-1172 Publication Date: July 15, 2016

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